

Application No.: 10/033436

Case No.: 57283US002

Remarks

Claims 1 to 16 are pending. Claims 17 to 32 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 5, 10 and 11 have been amended to indicate that the shaped engaging elements are formed of the same polymeric material as the substrate and that the filament stems are “unitarily” shaped into the second major surface and basis for the term “unitarily” may be found in original claims 10 and 11. The term “unitarily” refers to the fact that the engaging elements and the substrate backing are one undivided unit. Basis for the engaging elements being formed from the same polymeric material as the substrate may be found, for example, in Figures 2, 3 and 4 of the drawings.

The Interview

The undersigned acknowledges with appreciation the personal interview granted, which took place on August 12, 2004 (not August 11, 2004, as indicated on the Interview Summary sheet provided at this interview) with Examiners Shantese L. McDonald and Joseph J. Hail, III. The undersigned referred to the arguments presented in the Amendment and Response filed August 9, 2004. The undersigned also clarified that basis for the second sentence in the last paragraph on page 8 of the Amendment and Response, which states “These fabric-type fasteners are adhered with adhesive to the back side of the disc, not ‘integrally shaped into said second major surface.’” is the understanding in the art that adhesive is commonly used to attach the fabric-type fastener.

Examiner Hail clarified his interpretation of the term “integral” as being a whole unit and not necessarily formed from a single material. While not agreeing with the Examiner’s interpretation of the term “integral” on the instant claims, the claims have been amended to specify that the substrate and the engaging elements are unitarily formed rather than integrally formed, (i.e., the backing is a unit and not collection of parts).

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested.


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Allowance of claims 1-16 is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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